

Social & Personal

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Radiah Gata, Wednesday gave a luncheon in honor of the visiting delegation of English fruit and vegetable importers. Among the guests were the Israeli Ambassador to the U.K., Mr. Eliahu Eliahu, members of the Citrus Marketing Board, and senior officials of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Justice Frankfurter, President of the Israel-Born American Council Institute for Cultural Relations, and Mrs. Frankfurter yesterday evening gave a reception at their residence in Jerusalem in honor of the Argentine Ambassador, Mr. Garcia Ariza, the Venezuelan Minister, Dr. Rómulo Arango, the Guatemalan Minister, Dr. Francisco P. Hual, and the Vice-Rector of the Buenos Aires University, Prof. Escudé. Among those present were the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Zvi Shapira, and the Director-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Zvi Shapira.

The Consul of France, Italy, and the U.S. in Haifa held a farewell reception for the British Consul-General, Mr. N.W. Stewart, O.B.E., Dean of the Consular Corps in Haifa, and Mrs. Stewart, who are leaving for Britain next week.

Mr. Arthur Cohn of Michael Arthur Film Productions has arrived from Busle for a ten-day stay in Israel.

Dr. Ernst Nebenzahl, Honorary Consul-General of Sweden, will open an exhibition of Watercolours by A. Zimmernan at the Israel Museum, tomorrow at 11:30 a.m.

The Anti-Tuberculosis League will hold a Gala Purim Ball at the King David Hotel on Saturday night, March 21.

BIRTH
SERRA — To Helena (née SERRA) wife of Sam SERRA, a son, "Hadar," Tottenham Lane, London, N. 20.

Coralnik's Widow Dies Week After Husband

Mrs. Manya Coralnik, widow of Berl Coralnik, veteran Israeli journalist who died last Thursday, died yesterday. She was 62. She was admitted to the hospital some time ago with a serious heart condition. Her husband's death was kept from her so as not to aggravate her condition, but she seemed to realize what had happened.

She will be buried today next to her husband at Har Hamezuz.

Space Exhibition Opens in T.A.

TEL AVIV. — Man's efforts to conquer space may be largely attributed to the "thirst of curiosity" leading men to try to do what no one has done before, but this does not diminish the importance of science on earth, the U.S. Charge d'Affaires, Mr. William C. Baxter, said at the opening of the "Space Unlimited" exhibition at Z.O.A. House here on Thursday night.

The exhibition will run for a week, and will resume again between April 1 and 15. It not only shows the progress of the U.S. space projects, but also the efforts made by scientists of 67 countries all over the earth under the International Geophysical Year programme.

Children to Stay With Miss Bergman

ROME (Reuters). — An Italian judge ruled provisionally here on Thursday that the three children of Swedish actress Ingrid Bergman and Italian director Roberto Rossellini should stay with their mother but be allowed to visit their father during school holidays.

Mr. Rossellini had asked to be given temporary custody of the children, but the judge ruled that the children should stay with their mother but be allowed to visit their father during school holidays.

Miron Cinema Opens in Haifa

HAIFA. — A new 600-seat cinema, the Miron, was opened in the Atmon Building, on Rehov Hanevrim, on Thursday. The suburban theatre cost 1,200,000 N.I. and was planned by Mr. A. Loni.

As the street is already crowded in the evenings, the new cinema may move the starting times to stagger the crowds. The owners said that the municipality had licensed the new theatre.

ISRAEL NATIONAL OPERA

Opera House 1 Albany Rd., Tel Aviv

First Performance of *La Traviata*

Opera by G. Verdi in 3 acts (4 scenes)

With the Great Soprano *BRUNELLA DE VITA*

Start at 8:30 p.m. Tomorrow, Sat. March 14

Tues. March 17

FILMMAKERS

March 13

MADAME DE VITTA

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Today's Postings

The Weather

FORECAST: Partly cloudy with a considerable drop in temperature. Local rain possible in the north.

OUTLOOK FOR TOMORROW: Partly cloudy.

WEATHER STATIONS: A complete depression over northern Mediterranean Sea, bringing cold and moist air into our region.

	A	B	C	D
Haifa Port	20	21	21	21
Tiberias	18	19	19	19
Nablus	16	17	17	17
Tel Aviv Port	18	19	19	19
Tel Aviv	18	19	19	19
Jerusalem	18	19	19	19
Beersheva	18	19	19	19
Dimona	18	19	19	19
Eilat	20	21	21	21

(A) Minimum at 8 a.m. (B) at maximum time (C) maximum temperature (D) minimum temperature.

ARRIVALS

The Administrator of the Orange Free State and Mrs. J.J. Fouché, from Johannesburg, on a two-week private visit.

Mr. Zeev Levin, of the Ministry of Defense, arrived from Athens, after a six-week visit to Greece on behalf of the International Conference of Free Press Unions.

Twenty-nine members of a USA Study Mission from Newark, New Jersey.

TOURISTS AND ISRAELI TRAVELERS

Enjoy your visit to the Beit El Hotel of Tel Aviv. After terminating your passport and custom formalities, make your tax free purchases at the DUTY FREE SHOP and take along with you, at special prices, French Perfumes, American Cigarettes \$2.50 per 20, Cigars, Scotch Whisky \$2.50, French Cognac, Liqueurs, Cakes and Swiss watches.

(Adv.)

A WOMAN IMMIGRANT

from Rumania, aged 48, committed suicide by hanging in a Ramat Gan hotel on Wednesday. She left a note in which she gave the reasons for her action as mental depression.

A SPECIAL POST MARK

marking the 25th Anniversary of the Liberation of Eilat will be used at the Eilat post office beginning Thursday.

J'lem No. 6 Bus To Stop at R.R. Station

A decision to reroute the No. 6 bus in Jerusalem via the railroad station, beginning Sunday, was adopted at a meeting of the Ministry of Transport and Hamekashim.

The line, which serves the southeastern quarters of the town, has hitherto been a loop, and arriving passengers were forced to rely on special buses that were available only when trains came. The new system will provide frequent bus service from the station in both directions.

The No. 7 and 8 buses will be shifted from Bethlehem to Rehovot, and the No. 9 from Rehovot to Be'er Sheva. The No. 10 from Be'er Sheva to Rehovot will be shifted to Rehovot from the section between Rehovot and Be'er Sheva.

Blind Woman Claims Rape After Child Born

HAIFA. — A blind woman of 27 complained to the police here on Thursday that she had been raped almost a year ago.

She said that at the time she was staying at her brother's flat when she suddenly heard a voice which she believed to be her husband's. The man threw her to the floor and raped her, she alleged, adding that she had not reported the assault, because she had not feared any consequences at the time. However, two months ago she gave birth to a daughter and decided to report the assault to the police.

Two Boys Hurt In Bus Accident

TEL AVIV. — Eleven-year-old Gila Godes, son of the publisher of "Yedioth Aharanot" was seriously injured on Wednesday when he was hit by an Egged bus in Ramat Gan. He was taken to Beersheva Hospital. A 15-year-old passenger in the bus, Asher Shoshani, was slightly injured when the driver applied his brakes suddenly. (Him)

Ministry Defers Cheaper Milk Plan

At the request of the Milk Marketing Board, the Ministry of Health has agreed to defer raising its proposal to introduce cheaper types of milk to the Ministerial Economic Committee, it was learned.

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO ALON SHIMUKLER & YITZHAK SHIMONI

on the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of the Musical Giv'at Shimon.

KLARA LANDAU BONDY'S BALLETT STUDIO

Lily and Eric C. Baum (Engineers)

Are happy to announce the birth of their first son

DANIEL — URI

February 12, 1963 Chicago, 877 Lakeside Place.

Immanuel and Lisa Deborah Kutzinsky

(née Zeckendorf)

are happy to announce the birth of

A DAUGHTER — NARDA

Slater to Libor, Asuta Hospital,

6 Rehov Bialik, Tel Aviv.

Police Must Gain Public Confidence — Ben-Gurion

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Israel Police Force must gain the confidence of the public as it has done in Britain, Prime Minister Ben-Gurion told a gathering of senior police officers at the opening-out ceremony of officers at the end of a five-month advanced course on Thursday.

"A good policeman has to give a helping hand to the ordinary citizen, to women and children, and has to be humane in dealing with criminals, for they too are human beings," Mr. Ben-Gurion said.

The policeman must understand what led a criminal to become a lawbreaker, for it may be that "not he is to blame but that the circumstances under which he lived are at fault."

"The main duty of the police is to prevent crime. The schools, the press and society must help in this task," the Prime Minister said.

The detection of crime should be only the second step. The police will succeed in their task when they have acquired the confidence of the nation.

The Prime Minister was in high spirits and told his audience about his personal contacts with the police forces of Russia, Turkey and the U.K.

On one occasion, he and Mr. Yehoshua Ben-Zvi (now President Ben-Zvi) were arrested together by Turkish police in this country, when both were students in Constantinople. They were transferred to a jail where they came to an agreement with the Turkish guard, Youssef Bittendi, that he would let them go if they would return after dark to be locked up for the night. This continued for two weeks until they were released from Palestine.

In 1921, the first day that he was in London, a British hooligan approached him, but only to ask: "Can I help with anything?" Mr. Ben-Gurion said.

"The British policeman reflects the character of the British people," Mr. Ben-Gurion said. "I want the Israel policeman to have a specific character suited to Israel," he added.

Earlier, the Minister of Police handed certificates to graduates of the course, in which they learned administration, criminology, the principles of criminal law, and received an introduction into psychology and sociology. It was the second course of the kind for senior police officers.

Present at the ceremony were the President of the Supreme Court, Justice Olshan; the Chief of Staff, Rav-Alm Haim Lavkov; Mr. Zeev Rivlin, Chairman of the Board of the Internal Affairs Committee; Dr. N. Barak, President of the Tel Aviv District Court; and Mr. Yehoshua Ben-Zvi, Director-General of the Ministry of Justice.

The graduates of the course were drawn from the Hebrew University, Bar-Ilan University, Army personnel, senior civil servants and the regular staff of the Police School.

Haifa Refineries To Buy Local Products

HAIFA. — Through an advertisement in the daily press, the Haifa Refineries are inviting local manufacturers to offer them a variety of products which the company has hitherto purchased in Britain.

Since construction began on the plant in the 1930's it has enjoyed the quasi-territorial privilege of total exemption from customs duty for all goods required for its operation. Since foreign currency was controlled, the refineries were allocated sterling for their purchases which ran to substantial amounts.

Reports on the imminent expansion of the refineries are discounted here. The oil supply by ship and by pipeline is sufficient to meet the country's fuel needs. The eight-inch pipeline from Eilat to Beersheva must be replaced by a 16-inch one before more oil can reach the refineries on the overland route, and this project will require at least a year to complete.

DON'T ENTER CAVES

A warning against entering caves was issued to the general public, and especially youth, by the Ministry of Health yesterday. Relapsing fever caused by cave ticks is a difficult and protracted disease, made even more dangerous by the fact that the sting of the ticks is not felt.

Where visits to caves are essential, District Health Offices should be consulted two weeks beforehand.

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Pilot Probably Was Fatigued

Yosef Aharoni, the Chaim-Aviv pilot who lost his life when his plane crashed near Ashdod on Tuesday, had been flying for more consecutive hours than regulations permitted, the experts investigating the accident reported last night.

The team of expert investigators appointed by the Ministry of Transport's Civil Aviation submitted its report on the accident to the Minister of Transport yesterday.

The report found that there had been no mechanical defect in the plane, and that the direct cause of the accident was its striking high tension wires near the field that the pilot was spraying.

The report also states that a possible cause of the accident may have been a mistake in judgment on the part of the pilot, due to the fact that he crossed the electric lines obliquely and not at right angles as required.

In checking the pilot's flying time for the week of the accident, the experts found that he had flown for seven hours each on the Sunday and Monday preceding the accident and therefore should not have flown at all on Tuesday. Regulations permit a pilot to fly eight hours on any particular day but should he fly more than seven hours on any day he must not work at all on the following day.

Upon receipt of the report, Transport Minister Moshe Carmel summoned representatives of Chaim-Aviv and demanded that they take disciplinary steps against those responsible for these breaches of the regulations, and that they reorganize the firm's work to conform with these regulations. He also informed them that he had appointed a committee to investigate the firm's operations and aircraft maintenance procedures.

The Chaim-Aviv management will meet today to consider Mr. Carmel's demands.

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OIL, MARGARINE PRICES TO DROP

The price of oil and margarine to the consumer will be reduced to IL1.300 per kg. while the cost of margarine will drop by at least 100 pp. per kg., the Ministry of Commerce and Industry spokesmen announced in Jerusalem yesterday.

He said that the Ministry would start supplying food processors with the raw materials at lower prices beginning Sunday. The reduction would decrease a Government's revenue by IL2 million annually, he added.

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Economic News from Abroad

Monsieur de Brindley
One of Europe's largest petrochemical plants, it is the largest, to be built by the French firm of Brindley. The factory is to produce the entire range of hydrocarbon derivatives and esters, as well as a variety of other materials. The plant is designed to expand to a capacity of 1,000,000 tons of crude oil and other raw materials. The plant is designed to expand to a capacity of 1,000,000 tons of crude oil and other raw materials. The plant is designed to expand to a capacity of 1,000,000 tons of crude oil and other raw materials.

Saudi Arabia's Austerity
Austerity measures adopted by Saudi Arabia in the second half of 1953 have considerably improved the country's financial situation, and as a result the rial is up from 4.50 to 5.25 per dollar. The rial is still far from the rate of 3.75 it was exchanged for in 1953. The state budget is now balanced at 1,000,000 rials, and the country is earmarked for defence, including the tribal levy, (half as much as last year).

THE JERUSALEM POST

Friday, March 19, 1954

SECOND THOUGHTS
AFTER having, in a fit of courage, surprised the public by imposing new taxes and a compulsory loan, the government seems to have had second thoughts and is considering ways and means of mitigating the impact of the new taxes. The economic results of the fiscal expansion involved in the revised budgetary plan are also coming in, and it is apparent that the results of the expansion are being displayed by both trade unions and manufacturers.

The recent warning of the Minister of Commerce and Industry against wage increases may have done something to check the extreme demands raised by leftist labour factions, but it has even led to a more aggressive view of the prospective rise in the cost of living. On the other hand, industrialists are themselves cornered by higher costs and lower sales and profits in the home market, and are therefore better able to stand the new export plan, they are likely to pull all levers in order to preserve the convenient system by which they pass the cost increases to the consumer. Hopes that the rise in the cost of living would be offset somewhat by declining farm prices are being dashed by the growing opposition of the farmers. Though all of the counter-pressure comes perhaps, however, by harsh economic facts such as unemployment and a stiffer competition, helping bring them about has been considered, nor is it likely to be at a time when absorptive capacity must be strained to the maximum for mass immigration.

Small wonder, therefore, that counsels of despair are heard from several quarters proposing inflation, devaluation, rationing, subsidies and some backtracking on the measures taken in earnest. But the major fact emerging from this development is that the government has no new economic programme beyond raising additional revenue for financing projects which, though important in themselves, are inadequate to solve the country's current problems. It is a serious reality, but it is also a reality that the government is being qualified by the recognition of the tremendous difficulties involved, of the seriousness of the situation, and of the habitual apathy of great parts of the Israeli public.

But what matters is not appointing blame for past misadventures, but the commissioning that will prepare us for the future. The danger is that the Government's second thoughts about the practicability of the fiscal programme it has just adopted will lead either to a complete revocation of economic austerity measures, or to a simple device of tacitly letting the well-known wage and price boosts work their way up so as to submerge the newly erected economic walls in another inflationary layer, and in the end force the government to provide another source of foreign exchange for the people's current consumption or to patching up the situation by partial and inconsistent restrictions, thereby making the people, but not removing the real troubles.

The time is ripe, however, for a reassessment of basic issues and for drawing up a general economic policy that can be clearly exposed and presented to the people, in order to assure their cooperation in it. Fortunately some speedwork in that direction has already been done. Many relics of the past have been removed in the past few years, and new measures have been gathered for new advances on several fronts. The new export plan, though perhaps in need of revision in parts, is a hopeful start. The agricultural marketing agreements have proved effective instruments for regulating production, despite their shortcomings. The progress achieved in the liberalization of imports and the commercialization of state enterprises, assure well for the future.

But these partial advances cannot, of course, replace a coherent economic plan and a policy to put it into practice. We have been thinking in terms of this plan being postponed till after the elections, but the speed with which events move and the government's recent decisions, with all their repercussions, call for a more immediate action. Keeping up the present pace, it is well to hold damage to our economy.

COCON: MAKING IT PAY

Pickers Sometimes More Economical Than Machines

By Our Economic Editor

HIGH hopes were placed on coconut growing in this country after it had proved itself experimentally, but a whole range of practical difficulties have been hampering this crop.

Our cotton acreage, which stood at 22,000 dunams in the first season of commercial growing (1950), expanded to 64,000 dunams in 1953, but decreased to 47,000 the following year in the wake of the losses caused by the boll-weevil. Last year 60,000 dunams were planted and 21,100 bales (nearly 5,000 tons) harvested. This is approximately one-half of the country's cotton consumption. Next season plantings are expected to be increased to 70,000 dunams, due to persuasion and pressure by the agricultural authorities. Some planners even hope that 75,000 dunams will be attained; but it is still uncertain whether the target will be met, for farmers show little enthusiasm for the new crop.

We are still far from independence of cotton imports, which will cost us a \$1.5m. this year, and will have to increase if the expanded production capacity of the textile industry is to be utilized, and Israel's rapidly increasing population provided with a stable supply of cotton. The importance of cotton in this respect is that it brings in an added value of almost 80 per cent without being inferior in quality to the imported commodity. Moreover, last year Israel also produced about 7,800 tons of cottonseed, valued at some \$100 per ton c.i.f., and doubling the cotton output would help reduce the annual expenditure for oilseeds at over \$14m. One of the major items in our food bill.

Unskilled Labour
In fact, every ton of cotton produced in the country produces about 100 workdays in direct employment. Moreover, it is unskilled labour during the picking season (nine to ten days per dunam, as compared with two for maize). According to calculations by Mr. Y. Atia, one dunam of cotton is likely to save us \$100 as compared with \$40 per dunam of groundnuts and \$15 per dunam of maize. Moreover, cotton has a relatively modest water consumption, about 500 cum. per dunam, and is beginning to be grown irrigated. Although world cotton prices have decreased by some 25 per cent since the above computation was made in 1952, while post-war cotton prices have proved higher than expected and recent average yields lower — 220-250 kg. per dunam as compared with 300 kg. summed in the growers' cost

calculation — the crop remains a good economic bet, but apparently the growers are not very keen on it.

The popular explanation for farmers' attitude is that growing cotton does not pay, but that claim is not valid. Israel cotton growers have not been affected by the world price decline for their product. Quite the contrary: For fibres the farmers got IL2,400 per ton in 1953 as compared with IL2,100 in 1952 (a rise of over 15 per cent) and of IL2,200 in 1954 (a rise of over 15 per cent). This was paid by the Treasury. For linters too the price received by farmers during the past two years was IL2,275 per ton against IL2,000 in 1952 (the subsidy was IL2,75 in 1953 to offset IL2.15 in 1952). To be sure, for next year the budget contemplates a lower aggregate subsidy for cotton farming (IL2.2m. as compared with IL2.7m. this year), but that will not reduce the farmer's income.

Costs Reduced
On the other hand, production costs have not increased as farmers got more experienced, cultivation methods improved and some initial problems are solved. This is likely to offset the general inflationary trends. Thus cost estimates per dunam of Akala cotton submitted by growers for the 1953 crop were 12 per cent less than the estimate for the preceding year (due to lower expenses for labour and overheads) and as a result the cost of fibres arrived at was almost identical with that of 1952, though based on the assumption of a much lower yield. If that is taken together with the prospect of decreasing profits in vegetables, fruit and green fodder, the slow pace of Kibbutz cotton advance is rather remarkable.

A combination of several factors seems to be at play and should be carefully investigated. If the industry's situation is to improve, some of them are of agricultural nature and must be taken care of by research and experiments. This refers not only to the crucial problem of pest control, which demands continuous attention as unpredictable surprises may spring up every year, but also to all other production elements, such as seed selection, fertilizing, irrigation, etc. No time table, etc., all of which have a bearing on the harvest. The fact that no plausible reason has been detected for last season's poor crop, should perhaps be taken as an indication that not enough attention has been given to the cotton research in the past. Though entomologists, irrigation men and many other agricultural experts all deal with cotton, there is as yet no research body specializing



Yemenite cotton picker at work.

in its troubles and prospects. The tremendous range of the yields of individual growers, from 500 kg. per dunam to some 800 kg. shows that a lot can still be done in this respect, and that even relatively modest results may be achieved by concentrating on the quality of the fibre by about 1.7 grade (i.e. over eight per cent of value). If special equipment is installed at the ginning plants (at a cost of some \$100,000 to \$200,000 per plant), part of this lost loss may be recoverable, but the cost of the equipment and the use of machines greatly reduces the cotton's added value and raises the cost of the dollar saved from IL2.56 to IL2.27. Indeed, even from the cotton grower's point of view the use of mechanical pickers is really remunerative only in fields yielding more than 500 kg. per dunam, and in favourable general circumstances (high rainfall, etc.). When the yield does not exceed 250 kg. per dunam, pickers may easily prove more costly than hand labour, although communal settlements, which oppose hiring wage labour, may regard them as a boon.

More in North
Originally the crop was considered particularly suitable for the country's south, but as a matter of fact it is now being grown in the north — which accounted for a third of the acreage last year and may cover as much as half next year. The slow pace of cotton advance is rather remarkable. A combination of several factors seems to be at play and should be carefully investigated. If the industry's situation is to improve, some of them are of agricultural nature and must be taken care of by research and experiments. This refers not only to the crucial problem of pest control, which demands continuous attention as unpredictable surprises may spring up every year, but also to all other production elements, such as seed selection, fertilizing, irrigation, etc. No time table, etc., all of which have a bearing on the harvest. The fact that no plausible reason has been detected for last season's poor crop, should perhaps be taken as an indication that not enough attention has been given to the cotton research in the past. Though entomologists, irrigation men and many other agricultural experts all deal with cotton, there is as yet no research body specializing

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Farmers Wary
In any case, the fact is that farmers regard cotton growing with somewhat mixed feelings — partly because of inadequate expert advice and practical instruction, and partly because of the wage labour involved in picking, which last factor may be particularly important if agricultural wages rise further. The flow of credits and payments for financing the crop also seems to have been somewhat irregular.

Last but not least, the industry lacks an efficient and autonomous representative body that could fight its way through the maze of government departments and adopt a long-term policy. The Cotton Production and Marketing Board is doing important work but still lacks statutory powers, and is hampered by rivalry of private marketing bodies (which function as its guarantors for bank credits) even though itself being legally unable to offer proper collateral and by the close supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture. Matters seem to be ripe for reappraisal in many respects in this field, while the issue of cotton pickers should be taken as a starting point for a more rational economic policy.

COMMON MARKET INTEGRATION BROUGHT OUT BELGIAN MINERS

INTEGRATION of European industries within the Common Market countries is proceeding, but not without strains. The recent strikes of 100,000 Belgian miners were the latest in a series of decisions to close down several obsolete coal mines and to move redundant workers to other industries, for under the new free competition rules the old policy of subsidizing home producers and closing the frontiers to imports from Germany and France cannot continue.

Another conflict came into the open between the German and French governments following the latest devaluation of the franc, which made it possible for the French steel producers to undersell their German competitors by an average of eight per cent in Germany itself, after accounting for the six per cent German import duty and for transport charges.

German Steel
The German steel industry, which is currently working at only 70 per cent of its productive capacity, thereupon asked the Bonn government to double the customs duty, although this is vehemently opposed by the engineering industries and by the trade unions, which claim that German steel prices should instead be reduced to a competitive level.

On the other hand, the High Authority of the Coal and Steel Community has asked the French government to allow its steel producers to increase prices, or else to impose a special four per cent tax on French steel exports to the Steel Pool countries (the French government would like to prevent price rises at

home while higher export prices are prohibited under the ECSC rules banning "double pricing"). Such a measure is, however, bitterly opposed by the French. He also agreed to the tax proceeds may eventually be turned back to them for financing new investment projects.

Behind this struggle for the European market there also lurks technical rivalry: the French steel industry is now the most modern and can therefore afford to sell at bare production costs, while the Germans insist on high profit margins in order to accumulate funds for modernizing and expanding their plants.

Zim-Burmese Shipping Line
THE recently founded Burma Five Star Line — which is to be managed and partly staffed by Israel's Zim company — claims a 50 per cent share in transporting the commodities which are supplied to Burma by the Japanese Agreement. The Jerusalem Post is informed. Hitherto these transports have been carried by the Japanese shipping companies.

The Five Star Line will maintain a regular service between Calcutta, Rangoon, Bangkok and Java with two or three chartered vessels, and has already applied for membership in the Japan-Bay of Bengal-Japan Shipping Conference. Repatriation orders for two or three vessels will be shortly placed in Japan and the ships are expected to be delivered next year.

Telephone Income Leads Stamps

Entire Post Office Surplus Derived from Calls

By Our Economic Editor

THE Post Office's important source of income is now easily seen when one considers the amount invested in it up to date. IL2m. has been repaid and another IL2m. is to be repaid during the coming budget year. In addition, IL2m. of net surplus has been transferred to the Treasury.

Moreover, since last April, the Post Office has been paying the Government a royalty for the concession under which it operates. It also provides stamps for interest on the State's public debt, and superannuation funds for its employees.

The royalties have been fixed at 65 per cent of the Philatelic Service revenue, and at a lump sum of IL2m. for the telephone service, for the postal budget.

The post's total revenue in 1953/54 has been estimated at IL5,400, a rise of 10 per cent above the estimate for the current year. This includes, however, an expected drop in philatelic revenue to IL2,500, compared with IL2,800 actual income in 1952/53, and a IL2m. target for the State's Anniversary year.

Stamp Collapse
As a matter of fact, the Philatelic Service has enjoyed a great boom in speculative purchases which trebled the proceeds since 1950/51. The amount in that year was IL2,500. But the boom ended with a collapse last fall. Large quantities of stamps hoarded by "bulls" have been sold recently at a loss and are now finding their way into ordinary use through private vendors.

With the post office's income, the entire surplus of the Post Office is derived from calls.

To be sure, Israel stamps are still very popular with collectors both at home and abroad, and the number of the Philatelic Service's subscribers continues to grow. It has already passed 40,000, including 1,500 abroad. But as long as the present "recession" continues, aggregate sales must remain relatively modest.

Moreover, income from regular postal services is expected to grow only 12 per cent (i.e. IL2.5m.), despite the 30 per cent increase in postal rates, and the larger population, because of the competing sales of previous stamp issues of still valid denominations.

Rise in Revenue
On the other hand, a rise in telephone revenue of 50 per cent (IL2.5m.) and in income from the Post Office Bank by 25 per cent (to IL2m.) has been estimated.

Of the other revenue items, cables are the most important with IL4.5m. The telephone revenue is expected to rise again some 50 per cent of the Post Office's total revenue, as it did in the years before the philatelic boom.

With 500 new telephones installed every month, the total number of subscribers will approach 50,000 next year. The increase in telephone revenue is to come from local calls, with the rest divided approximately evenly between telephone rentals and trunk calls.

By far the larger part of this revenue is eventually charged to the expense account of business offices. It is also in the case of postage stamps.

The special position occupied by the telephone service appears most clearly from another angle: it is the only branch of the Post Office activity that brings in a substantial profit. In fact, the entire surplus earned by the Post is derived from this source.

Although the cable service balance has a profit of IL285,000 for the next year, the postal service has been estimated at IL4.5m. while the Post Office Bank may make both ends meet.

On the other hand, the telephone service has been estimated to close with a net revenue balance of IL2.5m., out of which the IL2m. interest on loans will be paid, most of the other deficits covered, and IL2.5m. left for repaying debts.

After Royalties
Most of the philatelic revenue too could be considered as profit, but for proper accounting purposes almost all of it is classed as royalty, while the telephone profit is after having been taken the royalty into account.

It is clear, therefore, why the Treasury is readily investing additional millions in development in telephone services. Of the IL2.5m. which the Post Office is to transfer to the Treasury under various heads (interest, royalties, depreciation, and superannuation funds and repayments) IL2.5m. is to be lent to the Post Office for the expansion of the telephone network (IL2.5m.) and for development of radio and broadcasting services (IL2.7m.).

Revenue from radio set licenses, inclusive of the Defence Stamp, will amount to about IL5m. enough to pay for the broadcasting service's costs (IL2.5m.) and to leave a surplus balance.

Experts Lecture Leather Leaders on Design, Export

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA.

THE country's leather manufacturers learned some valuable lessons on production, packaging and marketing of their goods at a study day at the Technion City on Tuesday.

The Institute of Industrial Design and the Foreign Trade and Supply Company, in both of which the U.S. Operations Management Institute is an active partner, as well as the Ministry of Commerce and the Manufacturers Association, sponsored the session.

In an introductory address, U.S.O.M. Director John J. Haggerty emphasized the importance of such seminars for the promotion of exports and for the creation of employment for skilled workers.

At the request of the Industrial Design Institute, a Philatelic Service representative has undertaken an evaluation of the prospects of Israeli leather products on the American market. In a paper presented at the conference, the company described the Israeli product as definitely marketable, but with some small improvements.

Detailed Criticism
The experts here went into detailed criticism. The tanners, whose spokesman had earlier made claims for their share in promoting the trade, were told that their product was good enough for shoes, but that they had made no efforts in producing leather for the leather goods.

U.S.O.M. marketing expert Frans Euler, of the Foreign Trade and Supply Company, stressed that a product should not only be pleasing in appearance, but had to be functional for the market for which it was intended. He cited billboards and briefcases as examples of design suitable for the local market, but not for the American market. He urged his

audience to study the needs of a market before sending out their goods; not to decorate the leather, which is a fine material in its own right, and to develop an original Israeli style.

"If you make yourself a good name, it will keep you," he warned them against.

Manufacturers had good chances of selling high-quality goods of modern design on the American market and to secure extensive articles of the American type in underdeveloped countries in Africa, for instance, he said.

He warned them against flaws in the finishing which marred their goods. On expensive goods, the country of the designer should be marked, as the American buyer values such information.

A Ministry of Commerce and Industry expert told the conference that the leather trade had declined here during the austerity period, when many skilled workers had emigrated to practice their trade elsewhere.

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Economic Research Can Prevent Mistakes in Agricultural Plans

By Our Economic Correspondent

PLANS are being made to establish an Institute for Economic Studies in Agriculture at a time when farm expansion faces the threat of glut at home and is being increasingly obliged to look to export markets. This involves economic as well as production problems.

Hitherto the watchword has been more production, sometimes at literally any price. The Ministry of Agriculture and the Jewish Agency's Settlements Department, both concentrated on technical instruction in the various branches of farming among the settlers, offering such additional aid as guidance in management and cooperation but collecting little information on the economy of the various farms.

Some years ago the Falk Research Centre financed a study of profitability in moshavim. Later the Ministry, the Agency and some of our banks financed further research along these lines, but it must be continued, broadened and intensified, for information on profitability is vital if we are to find out how and when the farm unit is going to pay its way, how to coordinate production and how to conduct agricultural planning.

We do not know yet, for instance, whether it is the moshav or the kibbutz that gives better returns. Some time ago a piece of research was published about the profitability of moshavim, but it was attacked by appearing to prove the inferiority of the kibbutz, but the validity of its assumptions and conclusions have since been attacked, and although further material has meanwhile been collected, it is in no way conclusive. Nor is it adequate to compare the economic advantages of the various organizational forms of settlement, which work under different conditions of the country. What is needed is continuous research into the profitability of all the various forms of settlement in various regions and at various stages of development.

The balance sheets of the auditing unions in the settlement movements cannot answer the questions that this question too should be cleared up by economic research.

The Institute that is being contemplated should therefore find out what production costs are for the various branches, determine what accounts for the differences in efficiency between individual units, and arrive at a conclusion on what is the minimum size at which a production unit can still make a profit. It will be a

without which we cannot know what, how much, and at what cost to grow if we are to make profit. Up to now the economic aspect of agricultural planning has been neglected, since the settlement authorities were interested mainly in growing more, rather than in growing better. The economic aspect of agricultural planning is particularly relevant at a time when the settlement authorities have given additional impetus to export plans.

The money for such a comprehensive research organization would have to come from the Agency, the Ministry, the banks and the various farms. In the long run it would prove a worthwhile investment.

Stocks and Commodities

Co.L. Index Linked Slightly Better in Tel Aviv

THE downward trend in C.O.L. index linked bonds for the last few weeks came to an end when some interest was displayed. The present increase in taxes and customs duties which is expected to cause prices to rise, probably spurred the demand. However, the index remains small in both C.O.L. index and dollar linked securities.

As quiet were industrial equities and other ordinary shares, with the exception of Delek ordinary, which showed firmness, advancing by more than seven points during the past week. Asas and Tera lost three points, while Palestine Electric second preferred.

Wall Street Under All-Time High
INCREASE of the discount rate by four of the Federal Reserve Banks caused some reaction on Wall Street, which earlier in the week touched new all-time highs. The action by the Federal Reserve Banks was another warning of a growing threat of inflation, which is to tighten money supply and check the price spiral. On March 16 the rally set in, which practically wiped out previous losses.

Unsettled Conditions

In London

INTERNATIONAL political uncertainty, particularly the Iraq revolt, depressed the London market in almost all sections. Japanese and German issues, however, were firm, but industrial shares presented a very dull appearance with no pressure to sell. Oil drifted lower with gold shares unsettled, reflecting disturbances in Central Africa.

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Red Sea Town Ready For New Wave of Immigrants

Jerusalem Post Reporter

THIS week or next week, the first group of selected immigrants from Eastern Europe will arrive in Eilat. They will have new apartments waiting for them, all furnished. The housewives will find their kitchens equipped with the essentials: the men will find work in their own professions waiting for them; the children will have desks in school the next morning.

Fortunately for the first 300 families expected to arrive in Eilat before the end of April, Eilat has been planning for just such an influx for nearly a year. The municipal budget anticipated them, homes were planned,

tiling the new wave of immigrants was simply itself. The 200 homes and 300 jobs will be filled by suitable workers from amongst the new immigrants, and an occasional family will be accepted from previous immigrants who were still under the Agency's care. Only if it proves absolutely impossible to find a suitable immigrant for a particular vacancy will housing be made available in Eilat for veteran Israelis at the present time.

The Eilat Local Council has set up a joint absorption committee with the local Labour Council to make an exact analysis of the job opportunities available for the immigrants. A subcom-

mittee while he took a job in, say, Petah Tikva. The selectors will look for young families who will find it easy to adapt themselves to Eilat's climate. They will look for skilled builders, plasterers, carpenters, electricians, plumbers. They will look for experienced workers or willing backs for the expanding port, which only a few months ago suffered a severe crisis through lack of workers. They will look for diesel mechanics, tractor drivers, crane operators, metal workers and locksmiths. Most of these workers will require a short period of on-the-job training varying from a few days to a few weeks, but within a short time they should be fully settled in their trades, creating new job opportunities for other, unskilled, immigrants.

As stated, 300 families will be absorbed by the end of April. The revised building programme calls for the building of a further 200 houses during the 1966-67 fiscal year. Whether this target can be reached depends to a large extent on whether the backbone of a suitable building labour force can be found. Depending on how much housing is actually completed, 500 to 700 immigrant families will be settled in Eilat before March 1967. After the obvious job vacancies have been filled, unskilled or partly skilled newcomers will also be welcomed to Eilat. The Ministry of Labour has promised to set up courses in conjunction with firms working locally, to train newcomers.

The Government corporation for developing the diamond industry plans to establish a diamond centre in Eilat. Two new cutting and polishing plants will be set up, and the existing factory will be expanded. The corporation will establish a "diamond school" of three classes of 20 pupils each to provide workers for the three plants. With the expected 60 per cent increase in Eilat's population, there will naturally be many new vacancies in service industries, stores and offices to provide extra opportunities for these newcomers. (and even then only for limited periods), there will be no special unemployment among Eilat's immigrants, and no need for relief projects.

Eilat is also determined that there will be no "ghetto town" for immigrants. The existing mahara—actually a well-ordered, tidy quarter of wooden huts in the centre of Eilat that bear almost no resemblance to the usual maharas—will not be razed this year, as had been hoped. But new immigrants will be straight into standard block-and-concrete houses ranged in one, two and three storey blocks. There will be no asbestos block flats, but it is hoped that a few hundred families will be housed in factory-made houses of permanent construction.

Solei Boneh has just completed a factory in Eilat which can produce precast concrete wall panels for up to 400 houses a year. The first house to come out of the factory is now being put up. When the factory, and the workers, find their feet, they will be able to put up 400 houses every year. As the houses go up, shopping centres and kindergartens will rise too in each quarter. Further prospects depend on the ability of Eilat to provide new jobs in new industries.

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The Birgitte Toft, first merchant vessel to arrive at Eilat port after the Sinai campaign.

provision was made in the kindergarten and clinics. When the plans were made, there was as yet no inkling that the gates of Eilat would be opened. The intention was to house in these apartments some 200 skilled workers with their families, who were to have been attracted to Eilat with all sorts of blandishments by local employers badly in need of skilled labour. Most of them would have been veteran residents in Israel, a few would have been mahara dwellers or new immigrants who had not managed to settle down elsewhere.

To adapt the plans to set-

The Conquerors of Umm Rashrash



HOW RACE TO EILAT WAS WON

Jerusalem Post Reporter

THE first Israeli flag to be run up over Eilat was not the one sent south specially by the authorities with one of its twin mobile columns, but one improvised on the spot.

The Negev Brigade—and not the Golani Brigade as planned—happened to be first in Eilat, although the Golani Brigade had the easier road. Early in 1949, Israel decided to strengthen its hold on Eilat by garrisoning the seacoast. The trip was believed to be especially dangerous since Gubb Pasha had sent a special unit of Legionnaires to the south with instructions not to let the Israelis (despite their legal rights) cross a line running roughly from Eilat to the Egyptian border. The special unit took up positions which dominated the only road to Eilat which hugs the Jordan border.

It was necessary therefore to find a passage way through the central Negev wilderness (without crossing into Egypt) as an alternative route.

A large reconnaissance patrol, armed with its own aerial photographs, and aided by maps drawn up years before by the Iraq Petroleum Company in its search for oil, was sent southward across the Eilat-Yahav Line ten days before the major action began. Aided by air support, it found a way whose "roads" were no roads and which was only passable by vehicles with four-wheel drive—command cars and jeeps. Mr. David Rabinovitch, who took part in both the patrol and the dash, recalls that his jeep easily took the grilling experience in its stride.

The patrol reached a spot a short distance from Eilat when it was spotted by Egyptian soldiers in Egypt. What exactly happened is not known, but instantly Jordan sent more men southward to reinforce its positions which were alerted.

The patrol returned and the next day the dash drive southward started. The Golani Brigade was entrusted with the flag since it was taking the easier route—so it was thought—the road which hugged Jordan. The column consisted of jeeps, command cars, half-tracks and armoured

cars. Its instructions were "not to open fire on the Jordanians and not to return any fire."

Near Be'er Mevahe the Jordanians opened fire. One bullet hit an Israeli in the chest but the slug was stopped by a metal cigarette case.

Golani's vehicles began manoeuvring into a simulated attack formation. The psychological pressure worked. The fire stopped, and Golani proceeded.

Legionnaires Flee

Further south, another Jordan unit which was in Gil-randel, inside Jordan, suddenly attacked with heavy forces. This caused some consternation since the Israeli force was a considerable distance away. The Legionnaires fled in panic, and were lost for three days until they arrived at Ma'an in a snowstorm.

Near Eilat, Golani slowed down its advance (now in its fourth day) to sweep the area for mines. It was this action which lost them the opportunity to run up the Israeli flag.

The second mobile column (the Negev) took the inland route of "roads" which were no roads.

A Jordanian unit, which had taken up its positions inside Israel near the Egyptian border, fled without giving fight. But the "roads" which were no roads gave out near the Egyptian border. It was almost impossible for the jeeps to proceed. So the Negev Brigade sent a small unit in to Ras en Nakel (in Egypt) to "negotiate" with the Egyptians to allow the Israelis to use a short stretch of the roads in Egypt. But the Egyptians fled at the sight of the Israelis. The roads were used without permission.

The Negev Brigade, which was now close to Eilat, made a mad dash and arrived in Eilat in the afternoon, five days after the action began.

But it had no flag. So one of the soldiers donated his white headcloth. Others dyed it with blue ink so it resembled the national colour. After a search, a rickety pole was found. While the soldiers steadied it, an officer shimmied up with the

first Israeli flag to fly over Eilat (see above).

The Golani Brigade arrived, and its members joined the others in a "hummah" that evening, where the finishing touches were put on the flagpole.

Israel's police will be fully mobilized to cope with the crowds on their way to Eilat. All stations from Petah Tikva onwards will be on the alert to handle traffic smoothly. Police will provide aerial cover to the Eilat-bound convoys from their Pipers and a helicopter, along with radio contact for the celebration organizers.

1,000 Scooters

One thousand scooter owners will hold a mass rally in Eilat on the second day of Eilat's 10th anniversary celebrations. Starting off from all over the country, they will converge on the evening of Wednesday, March 18.

Keren Hall, where a mammoth party will be held with dancing and a performance by the Nahal troupe. After sleeping for what is left of the night in Beersheba's schools, they will set out early on Friday morning in long columns of hundreds of scooters each for Eilat. They will be accompanied by fuel tankers and mobile first-aid vans to deal with both riders and their machines.

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What most annoyed the civilian residents was the erratic water supply. One evening four or five of them got together, and grumbled about their problems. Said one "So long as the water is in the hands of the Ministry of Agriculture, we can't expect much improvement. We should ask the Government to hand over the installation of Mekorot who have the technical staff and experience." Then and there they resolved to send a delegation to the appropriate Government department.

The water situation soon improved, but the same group of people brought the settlers' other problems to the various ministries' attention. At the end of the authorities decided that this self-appointed committee might as well continue to exist as a nominating council. That was in 1953. In the elections in 1955 all sides agreed on a combined list for the local council, half of whose members today are the people who met in 1953 to complain about the water.

"Bubi" Etzioni, the leading spirit of that meeting eight years ago, is now Deputy Mayor—and Manager of Mekorot.

The Workers Bank was a real pioneer when it opened its doors in an Eilat of 400 residents. "Yehsha" Shapir managed it in addition to the various other official and semi-official posts he held. Two afternoons a week, the bank would open for two hours. Occasionally there would be a sign on the door "Closed! Gone for money!" Eilat's workers, with nothing to do with their money in Eilat, took it North to spend. The plans from Lyda arrived twice a week, and all Eilat turned out to meet it: it brought the mail and nearly all the foodstuffs, including milk, meat, fruit and bread. Occasionally the plane would develop engine trouble and Eilat had to make do with scoured, dusty bread brought by road. One winter, when heavy rains washed out the road and closed down the airfield, Eilat ate mutton and dried beans for a fortnight.

Veteran Eilatians say that entertainment in those days was much better than it is now. Film and stage shows were given regularly in the old "amphitheatre" adjoining the Eilat Hotel.

Varied Functions

IT is doubtful whether any local council in Israel has had to fulfil the functions Eilat's council took on. When it was appointed it had to take over all its duties from the Army. There were no shops. As a pioneering gesture, Hamashbir has set up a grocery store and even went so far as to sell milk and vegetables, but meat was not in Hamashbir's line. So the council became the purveyor, buying and selling on its own account through Shragal Yakobovitz, in whose kitchen they hired refrigerator space. Kerosene was another problem. The Council bought it up in barrels in Tel Aviv and had white-bearded Ben David peddle it from a little cart towed by his donkey.

Eilat needed refrigerators, on which its citizens are exempted from excise, but there was no one to act as agent. The Council turned electric appliance salesman. It also acted as a wholesale foodstuffs dealer, being the direct agent of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Food Division.

GREETINGS on the occasion of EILAT'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY

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Eilat Celebrates in Style

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

EILAT'S celebrations next week will have in them an element of thanksgiving and pride, an unusual event, and plenty of entertainment for the town's inhabitants and their visitors.

On the thanksgiving side, Eilat will play host to the veterans of the Golani and Negev brigades who planted the Israeli flag on the shores of the Red Sea in March 1949. They will be the guests of the town, which will accommodate them in a special camp. They will have a parade re-enacting the historic occasion of the day.

The town will be the scene of a mammoth rally of a thousand scooters. Entertainment will be provided by fireworks, a police band, a fun fair, and a specially composed musical pageant.

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Three Dreams

The play, written in parts by a team of Israel's best known writers of sketches, is called "Shlosha Shehalimu" (Three who dreamed) and is divided into three "dreams". The first one is of the days of the Queen of Sheba, and the third looks forward to Eilat in the space of time.

For the second dream, Israel's first spaceship has been built in Eilat by Mr. I. Shazar, an engineer at Timna, using steel and plastic. The designers have declared that they have no intention of reaching outer space.

Eilat, which had a well-trained choir three years ago when its population was less than a third of what it is now, could not muster enough people to form a chorus for the 10th anniversary celebrations this year. As a result, a professional eight-voice choir had to be brought from Tel Aviv to complement the Eilat choir.

The 5,000-seat amphitheatre in part a gift of the Ministry of Development, is being readied feverishly. Stage and embankments are ready. Now concrete forms are being cast to act as supports for the spectators' benches. Cargal had come forward with the most original suggestion that the actual seats of the benches be made of specially shaped cardboard slats, seven centimetres wide and one and a half metres long. The offer came too late to allow the slats to be made in time, so the spectators will sit on wood after all—harder than cardboard and not so original.

New Amphitheatre

The amphitheatre, designed by a Tel Aviv architect for the maximum scenic and acoustic effect, will at a later stage have dressing rooms, a projection room, offices and other facilities. For the time being, it has a seating capacity of 5,000.

To avoid confusion for ticket holders to the pageant, the amphitheatre has been divided into four colour zones and three tiers corresponding to the three "dreams" of the pageant. The tickets are marked accordingly.

If Eilat's visitors take back with them happy memories of the ten-year-old town, the organizers will consider the six months of work and IL30,00 they have put into the preparations well spent.

Local Council Fostered Town's Growth

By MEIR BEN-DOV

EILAT'S Local Council

came into being almost by chance. In the early days when all the citizens of Eilat lived in the Eilat Camp, when the world was a Curious Comedy that came down twice a week (provided it was not busy anywhere else), when the water (when there was any) came out of a rusty pipeline, no one seriously minded the two-kilometre walk to the cinema, with blankets in winter to keep off the bitter winds. Transport in those days was of course non-existent.

There were one or two jeeps, one for the Army commander, one for the Navy's commanding officer. Everyone else walked. In any case there were no roads.

The first settlers had come to work for the Engineering Corps. They lived in the "corps" compound in wooden huts provided by the army. The medical service was provided by Kupat Holim (typically, the first civic "institution" was the Eilat Hospital). Eilat's shopping centre was the Shekem canteen on the seashore. Here one could buy practically anything: meat, bottled drinks, writing paper, work trousers, Sabbath shirts and skin-diving masks.

Selection Committee

While usually it is the citizens who choose their Council, in Eilat it was the reverse. A selection committee went to Maresha to select Eilat's first group of ship-to-settlement immigrants in 1955. Another selection committee went to Haifa to select immigrants from Eastern Europe in this month. In the years between, residents wishing to become official citizens of Eilat, complete a "Hishdush" (official housing committee) and employment, have first had to obtain the Council's approval. Even today the Council's representative on the official housing committee usually has the last word on whether a prospective citizen should be allocated housing from a Ministry of Labour project.

The Council was the first to develop tourism, too. At one time when an important visitor came to Eilat, the Council would try to hire a jeep or a tender somewhere to take him around. Less important visitors walked. Later the Council acquired its own little 11-seat bus. This carried tourists to the coral beaches, schoolchildren to swimming lessons, and, in

the early days, Eilat workers to the Timna works. As recently as two years ago the Council had no refuse truck. Occasionally a builder's lorry would be hired for an afternoon and the Council's street-cleaner would ride around town on it, offering jobs to his reluctant staff at the afternoon for emptying dustbins. A few weeks ago he was sentenced to four months in jail after it was shown that he expected a kickback of a pound.

Now the Council has its own fleet of vehicles: station wagon, jeeps, dustcart, fire engine and ambulance. The schoolchildren go by Egged bus, as do the Timna workers. Tourists book their trips through tourist guides. But the Local Council still runs an accommodation service for visitors, negotiates loans for citizens who want to acquire air conditioning and registers those who want to buy refrigerators. It subsidizes the sale of ice and distributes special water for drinking.

And last month, Eilat took a step back to the "good old days." When the Government discontinued meat rationing, the Council bought up large quantities of imported meat at bargain prices and is now back in business.

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Knesset Member Rahel Zohari

Education, Welfare and Integration Are Her Beat

By Aryeh Rubinstein

When Rahel Zohari was about to graduate from elementary school she appeared before the principal of Mikveh Israel Agricultural School and applied for admission.

"But we only take boys here," Mr. Kraus, the principal told her.

"That's all right, I can take care of myself," Rahel replied.

"Can you pay the tuition fee?"

"No, not now, but I promise to pay everything when I begin to earn money."

But Rahel was not admitted to Mikveh Israel and since in those days there was no agricultural school for younger girls — this meant that she had to give up her dream of becoming a farm expert.

Instead, she went in for teaching, becoming a supervisor and a teacher of teachers, and is now one of the eleven women members of the Knesset.

Rahel's parents were married in this country, after having come from Lodz at the end of the last century. Five of their nine offspring died in childhood.

Although her father in Yemen had learned to be a shoemaker, he could not get work here and became a labourer. For a time he worked at the Beit Seder Levinsky in Tel Aviv, and Miss Zohari thinks that the devotion to the pupils shown by the teachers there — "they don't come that way any more" — caused him to send his four daughters to school. Three of them completed secondary education.

School During Crisis

This was not the norm in the Yemenite community at that time. But even when the going was really rough during the economic crisis of the late 1920's, her father kept them in school. In those days, Miss Zohari recalls, they ate but bread and tea.

When Rahel was five her mother died, and she began doing part-time jobs at the age of 11.

Despite the hardships these jobs and her chores at home made on her time, Rahel was a good student that Noah Pines, her principal at the Levinsky School, spoke to Yitzhak Leib Goldberg about her.

He invited her to tea and proposed that she live in his house. Not only would her fine library be at her disposal, but his daughter would teach her English and music — and she was anxious to learn to play the piano.

But it did not seem right to Rahel (she was then 14) that she should live in luxury while her family was struggling. "If he wants to help, let him help me while I live at home," she told her principal. And so he did. Goldberg gave her a loan which she eventually repaid.

After teaching in the first grade for two years, Rahel moved on to model school, where she taught and served as counsellor to the seminary students. Interested from the first in problems of teaching in the lower grades, she became an enthusiastic convert to the "analytic" method, by which whole

words rather than letters or nonsense syllables are taught. At the time this was a revolutionary concept.

A scholarship granted by the Palestine Government Department of Education took her to England to study under Susan Isaac, who she says opened up to her the world of the young child and also that of psychoanalysis. Miss Zohari wanted to learn about the make-up of children and adults, and why a child in the classroom reacts in the way he does. To discover the answers she herself underwent psychoanalysis.

Parallel with Rahel's teaching career was her work in Hagana. Starting as a liaison runner during the 1929 riots, she went on to become an instructor in weapons and first aid, and the only girl in a 17-man command unit. Still later, she became a platoon leader and the chief first aid instructor in the Tel Aviv area.

When the Yishuv was mobilized during World War II she was in command of a battalion. And in 1948 she organized the Hagana Medical Corps in Jerusalem and became its commander. She liked to command the "Chim" women's corps.

Nights in Hagana

Between 1929 and 1948 (when she went to England), Rahel devoted five nights a week, from 8-11 p.m., to her Hagana duties, while doing her teaching jobs during the day.

Talking of Westerners and Orientals, I asked her how she felt about the problem. "The real problem is not so much discrimination as inequality of opportunity," she said.

The Oriental sees the Ashkenazi getting ahead faster and attributes it to discrimination. Often enough the reason is that the Ashkenazi has had a better education and is better equipped for the job.

"When I address an audience of Yemenites, I emphasize the importance of raising their educational level. I tell them of the tradition of learning among parents would ensure their children an education."

But the State too must do its part, she says. "The Oriental is a better chance to do so is fraught with danger to our entire society."

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of child care. Thirdly, steps should be taken to raise the educational level of the entire family. And, finally, large families should receive State grants.

How did she get into the Knesset? It was all the doing of some of the Mapai leaders in the Working Women's Council of the Histadrut, who were anxious to have a woman from the Oriental community to represent them. She was shocked when she found out that she had been given a high place in the list and for a while thought that it was a joke.

But she has no regrets now. An MK has great opportunities to fight for what he wants, both within the party and in the Knesset — to raise problems, to call attention to the need for action, to suggest solutions.

Miss Zohari is a member of two Knesset committees — Education and Public Services — and she is also on the executive committee of the Mapai Knesset faction. If she does not participate very often in the primary debates, it is because the subjects she knows most about — education, welfare and family problems — do not come up frequently. But when they do she can be counted on to make a knowledgeable contribution.

She has her apprehensions about the spiritual side of life being neglected in the State. She fears that in our society we are skipping over a thousand years of Jewish history, Archaeology and the Bible are all very well, but what about all that was created after that?

Eldest should undoubtedly be the driving force in our life today — but alas! it is not every well, but what about all that was created after that?

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Diary of A Housewife

By Hadassah Ben Haim

With a long list of requirements for her day of pre-military training, she presses her khaki trousers to knife-like edges and has anxious consultations with her friends about the angle at which their hats should be worn. She takes a large roach, crammed with enough food for the whole regiment, and a blanket, though she will only be away for a few hours.

HEAD of the House says he doesn't know whether he likes the idea of girls learning to shoot. He is not opposed to women's service (I should think not) but feels that the British Army knew what they were doing when they refrained from arming their female members with anything more lethal than a pepper spray. It is not so much a matter of who is shooting as who they shoot at.

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